

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method for use by a user for management of video data in a stored video stream, said video stream including a plurality of video shots wherein each shot comprises a sequence of frames, said method comprising the steps of:

5 storing within a memory a sequence of time-coded video frames arranged to play in a default order to display an entire work;

defining and storing in memory metadata associated with the video frames comprised of a plurality of possibly overlapping thematic categories;

10 displaying for selection to the user a list of the plurality of thematic categories; and

selecting for viewing a portion of said entire work associated with the selected thematic category.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

15 correlating the metadata stored in the memory with the user-selected thematic category; and

retrieving for viewing from memory the time-coded video frames associated with the user-selected thematic category.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the portion of the entire work according to the time-coded order of the video frames.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying the portion of the entire work at least partially independent of the time-coded order of the video frames.

5. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing with the metadata annotations for segments of the entire work associated with the content of those segments, wherein segments are comprised of a plurality of consecutive time-coded video frames.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the annotations for particular segments are different depending upon the selected thematic category.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing within a memory a second sequence of time-coded video frames arranged to play in a default order to display a second entire work;

5 defining and storing in memory metadata associated with the second sequence of video frames comprised of a plurality of thematic categories in common with said thematic categories of said first entire work; and

selecting for viewing a portion of said second entire work, concurrent with the portion of said first entire work, associated with the selected thematic category.

10 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of selecting two or more thematic categories having overlapping portions thereof and retrieving for viewing from memory the time-coded video frames associated with said overlapping portions.

15 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of selecting two or more thematic categories and retrieving for viewing from memory the time-coded video frames associated with any one of said selected thematic categories.

20 10. The method of claim 1, wherein said thematic categories at least partially overlap so that a plurality of video frames are simultaneously associated with at least two themes.

11. A method for displaying programmatic content comprising the steps of:
indexing within a table segments of the programmatic content using at least two possibly overlapping thematic categories;
25 enabling user selection of at least one of the thematic categories for viewing;
arranging the segments of programmatic content into a video sequence responsive to the user-selected thematic category; and

displaying the video sequence in substantial synchronicity with annotative information associated with a currently viewed segment of the video sequence.

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